

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
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AMEMBASSY LISBON
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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH NEUTRALS ON CSCE IMPLEMENTATION: AUSTRIA

REF: STATE 29999

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR DISCUSSED ON FEBRUARY 12 POINTS COVERED IN REFTEL WITH FMA MINISTER LIEDERMANN, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CSCE AFFAIRS IN MFA. LIEDERMANN MADE OBSERVATION THAT AUSTRIAN EXPERIENCE TO DATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF CSCE VIS A VIS COMMUNIST COUNTRIES HAS BEEN MIXED AND INCONCLUSIVE AS TO POSSIBLE ULTIMATE RESULTS. AFTER NOTING THAT EE ACCOMMODATIONS THUS FAR ARE IN GOOD PART OF OPTICAL NATURE, LIEDERMANN WENT ON TO MAKE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON SUBJECTS RAISED REFTEL.

2. FAMILY REUNIFICATION: GOA SHARES US VIEW THAT THERE HAS BEEN THUS FAR NO BASIC CHANGE IN EE POLICY ON QUESTION. MOST RECENT AUSTRIAN EXPERIENCE WITH ROMANIA HAS BEEN, ACCORDING TO LIEDERMANN, EVEN MORE NEGATIVE THAN DURING PRE-HELSINKI PERIOD. RESULTS VIS A VIS CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND GDR HAVE BEEN AT BEST INCONCLUSIVE WITH NO INCREASE IN NUMBER OF CASES RESOLVED.

3. WESTERN JOURNALISTS: GOA CONSIDERS SOVIET UNION MOVE REDUCING RESTRICTIONS ON WESTERN JOURNALISTS AS OF MARCH 1 A SMALL STEP FORWARD BUT HAD HOPED FOR MORE. IN GENERAL EE VISAS FOR AUSTRIAN JOURNALISTS CONTINUES TO BE PROBLEM OF VARYING MAGNITUDE. ONLY IN CASE OF POLAND ARE VISAS FOR AUSTRIAN JOURNALISTS NO LONGER REQUIRED, ON BASIS OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT. DELAYS IN ISSUANCE OF CZECH TRANSIT VISAS FOR TRAVEL OF JOURNALISTS TO POLAND IS EXPECTED TO BE DISCUSSED IN COURSE KREISKY VISIT TO PRAGUE FEBRUARY 16-17.

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4. FOREIGN FIRMS: GOA HAS RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF UNUSUAL DIFFICULTIES IN ESTABLISHING OFFICES IN EE COUNTRIES. COMPLAINTS BEING REGISTERED CONCERN PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF FINDING ACCOMMODATIONS AND STAFF AND IN DEALING WITH BUSINESS PRACTICES IN COMMUNIST ECONOMY.

5. MEDIA: GOA HAS NO PROBLEM WITH RADIO BROADCASTS SINCE ITS

BRIEF SHORTWAVE PROGRAMS ARE SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED AT OVERSEAS AUSTRIANS ON WORLDWIDE BASIS. GOA HAS BEEN INFORMED BY SOVIET UNION THAT MORE FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING 40 COPIES OF AUSTRIAN DAILY "DIE PRESSE", WILL BECOME AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN LARGER CITIES IN SOVIET UNION. THIS MOVE IS VIEWED AS BEING LARGEY OPTICAL IN NATURE, SCARCELY MEETING MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AND DISAPPOINTING IN SPIRIT.

6. CULTURAL-EDUCATIONA-SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES: GOA CONSIDERS THIS TOPIC PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT ONE FOR AUSTRIA WHICH ALREADY HAS AN ARRAY OF SUCH AGREEMENTS WITH EE COUNTRIES. AUSTRIANS RECENTLY TOLD ROMANIANS THAT THEY WOULD PREFER TO LEAVE OUT ANY REFERENCE TO HELSINKI FINAL ACT IN BILATERAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS NOW BEING PREPARED. PURPOSE OF SUCH OMISSION WOULD BE IN AUSTRIAN VIEW TO PRESERVE GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN DEALING WITH EXCHANGE MATTERS BY AVOIDING, IF POSSIBLE, CHANNELING ALL EXCHANGES THROUGH GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMEN ARRANGEMENTS. ACTION REQUESTED: GOA WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING US VIEWS ON THIS ASPECT SINCE IT UNDERSTANDS US NOW IN STAGE OF NEGOTIATING SEVERAL AGREEMENTS WITH EE COUNTRIES.

7. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF FINAL ACT: GOA HAS PUBLISHED 46,000 COPIES OF FINAL ACT, 40,000 IN FORM OF SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY "WIENER ZEITUNG" AND 6,000 COPIES IN BOOK FORM. LATTER DISTRIBUTED TO SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND OPINION MOLDERS IN VARIOUS FIELDS. UNSOLICITED DEMAND FOR COPIES OF PUBLICATION HAS BEEN VERY LIMITED.

8. CSCE FOLLOW-UP: GOA HAS GIVEN VERY LITTLE THOUGHT TO BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS. LIEDERMANN VENTURED OPINION HOWEVER THAT GOA WOULD AGREE WITH US POSITION THAT REVIEW OF ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF CSCE SHOULD BE MAIN CONCERN OF BELGRADE GATHERING. IN THIS REGARD LIEDERMANN NOTED THAT PREPARATORY MEETING FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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BELGRADE CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE KEY ROLE IN DEVELOPING AGENDA AND IN ESTABLISHING PARAMETERS OF WORK OF CONFERENCE ITSELF.

9. CONSULTATIONS AMONG NEUTRALS: LIEDERMANN VOLUNTEERED THAT FINNS ARE ENCOURAGING EARLY GET TOGETHER OF NEUTRALS, POSSIBLY ALREADY IN EARLY SPRING, TO CONSULT ON CSCE IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES AND ROUTE OF MARCH FOR BELGRADE MEETING. SWISS AND SWEDES REPORTEDLY HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY FINNS ON MATTER. YUGOSLAVIA WOULD APPARENTLY LIKE TO ATTEND GATHERING OF NEUTRALS. AUSTRIANS ARE READY TO PARTICIPATE, ACCORDING TO LIEDERMANN, IN SUCH MEETING BUT IT SHOULD BE GATHERING OF "REAL NEUTRALS" NOT ONE IN WHICH NON-ALIGNED ALSO WOULD BE PRESENT. DECISIONS ON SITE, DATE, AND PARTICIPANTS REPORTEDLY ARE STILL PENDING.

10. APPLICATION BY AUSTRIA OF CSCE: GOA HAS PREPARED CATALOGUE

BY BASKETS OF AREAS IN WHICH EE COUNTRIES EITHER UNILATERALLY OR BILATERALLY WITH AUSTRIA COULD TAKE MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT CSCE AND IS USING THESE LISTS IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH EE GOVERNMENTS.

11. IN CONCLUSION, LIEDERMANN REGISTERED GOA APPRECIATION FOR OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AGAIN WITH US ON CSCE IMPLEMENTATION AND REPEATED HIS REQUEST FOR INFORMATION SET FORTH UNDER PARA 6 ABOVE.BUCHANAN

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